

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1 - 50 (Canceled)

51. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~50~~90, wherein said liposome-forming lipids are phospholipids.

52. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 51, wherein said phospholipids are derived from egg yolk or soy oil.

53. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 52, wherein said liposome-forming phospholipids are selected from the group consisting of E-0100, S20, S20N, S-35, and S-45.

54. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 53, wherein said liposome-forming phospholipid is E-100 or S-45.

55. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 50, wherein the solvent is cyclohexane.

Claims 56 - 57. (Cancelled)

58. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim ~~50~~90, wherein said aqueous solution is a water solution.

59. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim ~~50~~90, wherein the weight ratio between said ~~lycopen~~carotenoid and

the liposome-forming lipids in the resulting liposomal formulation is in the range of between 1:1 and 1:500.

60. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim ~~50~~90, wherein said ~~lycopen~~e-carotenoid is entrapped in the lipid bilayer of the liposome formed.

61. (Currently Amended) A formulation comprising liposomes loaded with an amount of ~~lycopen~~e a water-immiscible carotenoid, the formulation being prepared by the method of Claim ~~50~~90.

62. (Previously Presented) The formulation of Claim 61, wherein said liposomes are formed from lipids, the weight ratio between the lycopene and the liposome-forming lipids being in the range of between 1:1 and 1:500.

63. (Currently Amended) The formulation of Claim 61, wherein said liposomes consist of a lipid bilayer and said ~~lycopen~~e-carotenoid is entrapped in said lipid bilayer.

64. (Previously Presented) The formulation of Claim 61, wherein the liposome-forming lipids are phospholipids.

65. (Previously Presented) The formulation of Claim 64, wherein said phospholipids are derived from egg yolk or from soy oil.

66. (Previously Presented) The formulation of Claim 65, wherein said lipids are selected from the group consisting of E-100, S-20, S20N, S35 and S-45.

67. (Previously Presented) The formulation of Claim 66, wherein said lipid is E-100 or S-45 or a combination of the same.

68. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically or cosmetically effective amount of a formulation according to Claim 61 and a pharmaceutically or cosmetically acceptable additive.

69. (Previously Presented) The pharmaceutical composition of Claim 68, comprising a pharmaceutically or cosmetically effective amount of a formulation according to Claim 62.

70. (Previously Presented) The pharmaceutical composition of Claim 68, comprising a pharmaceutically or cosmetically effective amount of a formulation according to Claim 63.

71. (Previously Presented) The pharmaceutical composition of Claim 68, comprising a pharmaceutically effective amount of a formulation according to Claim 64.

72. (Previously Presented) The pharmaceutical composition of Claim 68, comprising a pharmaceutically effective amount of a formulation according to Claim 65.

73. (Previously Presented) The pharmaceutical composition of Claim 68, comprising a pharmaceutically effective amount of a formulation according to Claim 66.

74. (Previously Presented) The pharmaceutical composition of Claim 68, comprising a pharmaceutically effective amount of a formulation according to Claim 67.

75. (Previously Presented) The composition of Claim 61, wherein the formulation further comprises a pharmaceutically acceptable or cosmetically acceptable carrier.

76. (Previously Presented) The composition of Claim 75, formulated for topical application to an individual's skin.

77. (Previously Presented) The composition of Claim 76, in the form of a cream, a lotion, hydrogel or gel preparation.

78. (Previously Presented) The composition of Claim 75, formulated for oral administration.

79. (Previously Presented) The composition of Claim 78, in the form of a capsule.

80. (Previously Presented) The composition of Claim 78, in the form of an edible wherein said formulation is in the form of a suspension.

81. (Previously Presented) The composition of Claim 68, for the treatment of damage caused by the formation of singlet oxygen.

82. (Previously Presented) A therapeutic method for the treatment or prevention of damage caused by singlet oxygen,

the method comprises providing an individual in need thereof a composition according to Claim 61.

83. (Currently Amended) A kit comprising (a) a dry powder comprising a mixture of liposome-forming lipids and lycopene prepared as described in Claim ~~50~~90, step (b); (b) sterile aqueous solution; and (c) instruction for use of the dry powder and the mixture of liposome-forming lipids to yield liposomes loaded with said carotenoid according to step (c) of the method of Claim ~~50~~90, said ~~instructions~~instruction also prescribing the administration of the liposomes loaded with said carotenoid to an individual in need thereof.

Claim 84 - 87 (Canceled)

88. (Previously Presented) The kit of Claim 83, wherein said liposome-forming lipid is a phospholipid.

89. (Previously Presented) The kit of Claim 88, wherein said phospholipids are selected from the group consisting of E-100, S20, S20N, S-35 and S-45.

90. (New) A method for preparing a formulation comprising liposomes loaded with an effective amount of at least one carotenoid that is substantially immiscible in water, the method comprising the steps of:

- a. Dissolving a first powder of liposome-forming lipids in an organic solvent to a level close to saturation;

- b. Adding to the dissolved liposome-forming lipids obtained in step (a) at least one dry, water-immiscible carotenoid to obtain a mixture of carotenoid and liposome-forming lipids, and freeze-drying the solution to form a second dry powder; and
- c. Rehydrating the second dry powder in an aqueous solution to yield liposomes loaded with at least one carotenoid.

91. (New) The method according to claim 90 wherein at least one carotenoid is lycopene.

92. (New) The formulation according to claim 61 wherein the carotenoid is lycopene.